IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A process for producing a water-absorbing polymer comprising a base polymer A being mixed with a first aqueous solution B of at least one surface postcrosslinker and a second aqueous solution C of at least one polyvalent cation and thermally treated, wherein said base polymer A is based on an at least 50% neutralized acid-functional monomer and said solutions B and C are metered wholly or partly concurrently through separate nozzles, the concentration of the at least one surface postcrosslinker on said base polymer A being in the range from 0.01% to 0.5% by weight and the concentration of the at least one polyvalent cation on said base polymer A being in the range from 0.001% to 0.5% by weight, based in each case on said base polymer A.

2. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein said solutions B and C are metered concurrently through separate nozzles.

3. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein said solution B comprises a cosolvent.

4. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein said solution B of said surface postcrosslinker comprises an oxazolidone.

5. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein said solution B comprises at least two mutually distinct surface postcrosslinkers.

6. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein said solution B comprises at least one surface postcrosslinker different from a polyol and at least one polyol.

7. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein said base polymer A has a deagglomerating assistant added to it.

8. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 7 wherein said deagglomerating assistant is sorbitan monococoate, sorbitan monolaurate, or a mixture thereof.

9. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 7 wherein said deagglomerating assistant is added to said aqueous solution B or to said aqueous solution C.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the at least one surface postcrosslinker in said solution B, based on said solution B, is not more than 30% by weight.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the at least one polyvalent cation in said solution C, based on said solution C, is not more than 12% by weight.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the at least one polyvalent cation on said base polymer A, based on said base polymer A, is in the range from 0.02% by weight to 0.1% by weight.

16. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein the ratio of said solution B to said solution C is in the range from 10:1 to 1:10.

17. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein the total amount of said solutions B and C is in the range from 2.5% to 6.5% by weight, based on said base polymer A.

18. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein said base polymer A is a partially neutralized and crosslinked polyacrylic acid.

19. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein said base polymer A has a pH in the range from 5.6 to 6.2.

20. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 1 wherein said solutions B and C are sprayed onto said base polymer A and the average diameter of the sprayed drops is in the range from 50 to 100 μm.

21. (Currently amended) A water-absorbing polymer ~~prepared by the process of claim 1, said polymer~~ having a saline flow conductivity of not less than $80x10^{-7}$ cm^3s/g and comprising not less than 80% by weight of particles between 150 and 600 μm in size, said polymer prepared by a process comprising mixing a base polymer A with a first aqueous solution B of at least one surface postcrosslinker capable of forming covalent bonds with carboxyl groups and a second aqueous solution C of at least one polyvalent cation and thermally treated, wherein said base polymer A is based on an at least 50% neutralized acid-functional monomer and said solutions B and C are metered wholly or partly concurrently through separate nozzles, the concentration of the at least one surface postcrosslinker on said base polymer A being in the range from 0.01% to 0.5% by weight and the concentration of the at least one polyvalent cation on said base polymer A being in the range from 0.001% to 0.5% by weight, based in each case on said base polymer A.

22. (Original) The polymer of claim 21 comprising not less than 80% by weight of particles between 150 and 500 μm in size.

23. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 21 comprising not less than 95% by weight of particles between 150 and 500 μm in size.

24. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 21 having a saline flow conductivity of not less than $100x10^{-7}$ cm^3s/g.

25. (Currently amended) The polymer of claim 21 having a saline flow conductivity of not less than $120x10^{-7}$ cm^3s/g.

26. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 21 having a centrifuge retention capacity of not less than 24 g/g and an absorbency under load at 4830 Pa of not less than 21 g/g.

27. (New) The polymer of claim 21 wherein said base polymer A has a deagglomerating assistant added to it, wherein the deagglomerating assistant is metered such that a surface tension of an aqueous extract of the swollen water-absorbing polymer after addition of said deagglomerating assistant is at least 0.065 N/m.

28. (New) The polymer of claim 21 wherein the concentration of the at least one surface postcrosslinker on said base polymer A, based on said base polymer A, is in the range from 0.1% by weight to 0.5% by weight.

29. (New) The polymer of claim 21 wherein the concentration of the at least one polyvalent cation on said base polymer A, based on said base polymer A, is in the range from 0.02% by weight to 0.1% by weight.